

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for processing information, comprising:

an information acquisition means for acquiring multimedia information having a structure of block data including a header area and a data area holding data;

a data extractor means for extracting desired data from the multimedia information acquired by the information acquisition means, through searching, based on the content described in the header area of the multimedia information; and

a reproducing means for reproducing the data extracted by the data extractor means.

2. An apparatus for processing information according to claim 1, wherein the header area of one piece of block data has a structure in which block name identification information describing a name identifying the content of at least current block data and data length identification information indicating the data length of the current block data are arranged in a predetermined order, and

wherein the data extractor means searches for data to be extracted, based on the block name identification information and the data length identification information.

3. An apparatus for processing information according to claim 1, wherein the data area of one piece of block data stores at least one piece of block data while the header area of one piece of block data has a structure in which block name identification information describing a name identifying the content of at least current block data, child block data count identification information indicating the number of pieces of child block data stored in the data area of the current block data, and data length identification information indicating the data length are arranged in a predetermined order, and

wherein the data extractor means searches for data to be extracted, based on the block name identification information, the child block data count identification information, and the data length identification information.

4. An apparatus for processing information according to claim 1, wherein one piece of block data has a structure in which delimitation identification information having a predetermined length indicating a delimitation of an area is inserted in a data sequence composed of an information area, forming the header area, and the data area, and

wherein the data extractor means identifies a delimitation position of the areas based on the delimitation

identification information when the data extractor means searches for data to be extracted.

5. A system for delivering information, comprising an information delivery apparatus and an information receiver apparatus,

wherein the information delivery apparatus comprises:

a storage means for storing at least one piece of multimedia information having a structure of block data including a header area and a data area holding data; and

a transmitter means for transmitting multimedia information selected from at least one piece of multimedia information stored in the storage means; and

the information receiver apparatus comprises:

a receiver means for receiving the multimedia information transmitted by the information delivery apparatus;

a data extractor means for extracting, through searching, desired data from the multimedia information received by the receiver means, based on the content described in the header area of the multimedia information; and

a reproducing means for reproducing the data extracted by the data extractor means.

6. A method for processing multimedia information, comprising the steps of:

acquiring, from outside, multimedia information, having a structure of block data, including a header area and a data area holding data;

extracting, through searching, desired data from the multimedia information acquired through the acquiring step, based on the content described in the header area of the multimedia information; and

reproducing the data extracted by the data extracting step.

7. A method for processing multimedia information, according to claim 6, wherein the header area of one piece of block data has a structure in which block name identification information describing a name identifying the content of at least current block data and data length identification information indicating the data length of the current block data are arranged in a predetermined order, and

wherein the data extracting step searches for data to be extracted, based on the block name identification information and the data length identification information.

8. A method for processing multimedia information,

according to claim 6, wherein the data area of one piece of block data stores at least one piece of block data while the header area of one piece of block data has a structure in which block name identification information describing a name identifying the content of at least current block data, child block data count identification information indicating the number of pieces of child block data stored in the data area of the current block data, and data length identification information indicating the data length are arranged in a predetermined order, and

wherein the data extracting step searches for data to be extracted, based on the block name identification information, the child block data count identification information, and the data length identification information.

9. A method for processing multimedia information, according to claim 6, wherein one piece of block data has a structure in which delimitation identification information having a predetermined length indicating a delimitation of an area is inserted in a data sequence composed an information area, forming the header area, and the data area, and

wherein the data extracting step identifies a delimitation position of the areas based on the delimitation identification information when the data extracting step

searches for data to be extracted.

10. A recording medium for recording multimedia information, having a structure of block data, including a header area and a data area holding data.

11. A recording medium according to claim 10, wherein the header area of one piece of block data has a structure in which block name identification information describing a name identifying the content of at least current block data and data length identification information indicating the data length of the current block data are arranged in a predetermined order.

12. A recording medium according to claim 10, wherein the data area of one piece of block data stores at least one piece of block data while the header area of one piece of block data has a structure in which block name identification information describing a name identifying the content of at least current block data, child block data count identification information indicating the number of pieces of child block data stored in the data area, and data length identification information indicating the data length of the current block data are arranged in a predetermined order.

